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Message Text

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ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 AID-20 SSO-00 INRE-00 NSCE-00 USIE-00

IGA-02 EB-11 COME-00 AGR-20 TRSE-00 CIAE-00 PM-07

H-02 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01

SS-15 OMB-01 IO-13 RSR-01 /135 W
---------- 034753
O R 231140 Z JUN 73
FM AMEMBASSY PHNOM PENH
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 1806
INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK
AMEMBASSY SAIGON
SECDEF
CINCPAC
COMUSMACTHAI
USSAG NKP THAI
DIA WASHDC

C O N F I D E N T I A L PHNOM PENH 6242

FOR STATE/ AID

E. O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: EGEN, EAID, CB
SUBJECT: RICE CRISIS- DAILY UPDATE

REF: (A) PHNOM PENH 6209; (B) BANGKOK 9722

1. THE FOLLOWING IS A PROJECTION OF THE RICE SITUATION IN PHNOM PENH COVERING THE PERIOD FROM JUNE 22 THROUGH JULY 2.

	6/22	6/23	6/24	6/25	6/26	6/27
BEGINNING STOCKS	8,586	8,016	7,466	6,916	6,366	5,816
ROUTE 4	-	-	-	-	-	1,100
MEKONG	-	-	-	-	-	-
TOTAL AVAILABLE	8,586	8,016	7,466	6,916	6,366	6,916
LESS DISTRIBUTION	570	550	550	550	550	550
END STOCKS	8,016	7,466	6,916	6,366	5,816	6,366

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	6/28	6/29	6/30	7/1	7/2
BEGINNING STOCKS	6,366	5,816	5,266	8,816	8,266
ROUTE 4	-	-	1,100	-	-
MEKONG	-	-	3,000	-	-
TOTAL AVAILABLE	6,366	5,816	9,366	8,816	8,266
LESS DISTRIBUTION	550	550	550	550	550
END STOCKS	5,816	5,266	8,816	8,266	'(,716

EQS 14.0 DAYS
IN THE EVENT ROUTE 4 IS CLOSED 5,516 EQS 10.0 DAYS
IN THE EVENT MEKONG IS CLOSED 2,516 EQS 4.6 DAYS
WITH DISTRIBUTION AT 700 M/ T PER DAY 1,650 EQS 2.6 DAYS

THERE IS A DISCREPANCY BETWEEN THE GKR STOCK AND DISTRIBUTION DATA WHICH IS PRESENTLY UNEXPLAINED. ACCORDING TO THE OFFICIAL DISTRIBUTION REPORTS A TOTAL OF 911 M/ T WERE DISTRIBUTED ON THE 20 TH, 436 M/ T ON THE 21 ST AND 570 M/ T ON THE 22 ND. GOVERNMENT REPORTS, HOWEVER, INDICATE STOCKS ARE APPROXIMATELY 1,000 M/ T HIGHER THAN THIS DISTRIBUTION DRAWDOWN WOULD INDICATE. FOR THE PRESENT WE ARE USING THE GOVERNMENT' S STOCK LEVELS AS REPORTED UNTIL THE DISCREPANCY CAN BE RECTIFIED. IN CONSTRUCTINGI
HE ABOVE TABLE
WE HAVE STARTED WITH A THEOREHCAL BEGINNING STOCK, SUBTRACTED THE OFFICIAL DISTRIBUTION TOTAL FOR JUNE 22 AND HAVE ENDED WITH THE GKR' S REPORTED FINAL STOCK LEVEL FOR THE 22 ND.

2. MEKONG CONVOY. WE NOW EXPECT THAT THE TWO KOMPONG- SOM ORIGINATED BARGES CARRYING A TOTAL OF 3,000 M/ T (PARA 2, REF A) WILL ARRIVE AT TAN CHAU BE THE EVENING OF JUNE 29. WE HAVE, THEREFORE, REQUESTED A SPECIAL CONVOY TO BRING THESE VESSELS TO PHNOM PENH ON JUNE 30. THIS ARRIVAL IS REFLECTED IN THE ABOVE PROJECTION.

3. ROUTE 4. WE HAVE JUST RECEIVED A REPORT THAT THE ROUTE 4 CONVOY SCHEDULED TO ARRIVE IN PHNOM PENH ON JUNEHOWU MAY CARRY AS MUCH AS 3,000 M/ T RATHER THAN THE 1,100 M/ T PROJECTED ABOVE. SINCE THIS IS ONLY AN ESTIMATE, HOWEVER, WE HAVE NOT CHNAGED THE ABOVE TABLE.

4. ROUTE 5. THE LAST BATTALION OF AN EIGHT BATTALION ROAD CLEARING FORCE WAS TO HAVE ARRIVED AT SALA LEK PRAM ON ROUTE 5 TODAY, JUNE 23. ALSO, THE ATTACK TO OPEN ROUTE 5 WAS TO HAVE
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STARTED TODAY. AS OF 1630 HOURS FANK J-3 WAS UNAWARE OF THE STATUS OF EITHER ACTION. THERE IS NO PROGNOSIS ON THE DATE THE ROAD MIGHT BE OPENED BUT THE ENEMY IS EXPECTED TO STUBBORNLY RESIST FANK ADVANCES.

5. THAI RICE. THE GKR DELEGATION HAS NOT YET RETURNED TO PHNOM PENH - CONSEQUENTLY, WE DO NOT YET KNOW THE TERMS OF THE

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THAI RICE PACKAGE. EVEN 35,000 M/ T OF THAI RICE WILL NOT
RELIEVE THE RICE SITUATION BOTH IN THE SHORT AND LONGER TERMS.
AT BEST WE CAN EXPECT ONLY 5,000 M/ T TO ARRIVE IN PHNOM PENH
IN JULY FROM THAILAND. IN THE EVENT OF NO BATTAMBANG DELIVERIES,
STOCKS WILL BE VIRTUALLY EXHAUSTED BY THE END OF THAT MONTH.
THE THAI PURCHASE THEREFORE SHOULD NOT HOLD UP ACQUISITION OF
ANY ADDITIONAL AMOUNTS OF PL 480 RICE THAT MIGHT BE NOW
AVAILABLE FOR IMMEDIATELY DELIVERY. THE NEXT RICE UPDATE WILL BE
MONDAY, JUNE 25.
SWANK

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NNNNMAFVVZCZ

*** Current Handling Restrictions *** n/a
*** Current Classification *** CONFIDENTIAL

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SECSTATE WASHDC INFO BANGKOK
CINCPAC
DIA
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MULTIPLE
Type: TE

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